

Application No. 09/677,120  
Amendment after Final Rejection dated December 23, 2004  
Reply to Final Office Action dated October 4, 2004  
Express Mail EV406652329US

Please replace page 5, lines 15 – 19 with the following lines:

**BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Fig. 1 is an overview of a multi-processor data processing system.

Fig. 2A-2E shows the flow of how a process is stolen or poached by an idle processor when the processor on which it is scheduled on the queue is too busy to run the process.

Please replace page 8, lines 15 – 21 with the following lines:

Turning now to the specific disclosure in the drawing, each processor 100-107 keeps track of the time from when it first went busy. It is intended that a process is poached when the processor on which it is scheduled is too busy to run the process. Accordingly, once a predetermined amount of time has elapsed during which a processor continues to be busy, other processors who have gone idle are then free to poach the process from the busy processor. Each processor 100-107 has a timer for this purpose.